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27 April 1956

DD/S

56-1977

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Questions Discussed at a Meeting with Mr. Scrivner  
 Held on Saturday, 21 April 1956, from 10:15 to 11:15 A.M.

The following representatives of CIA attended the meeting:

Mr. Dulles  
 Gen. Cabell  
 Col. White (DD/S) *H&L also present*  
 Mr. Helms  
 Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Saunders  
 Mr. Paul  
 Col. \_\_\_\_\_ (OSI)  
 Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Scrivner (Errett P. Scrivner, Kansas City) referred to contradictory information concerning certain basic factors effecting the National Security which has been presented at Congressional hearings and is being written about in the newspapers. He referred specifically to statements being made by the Alsop brothers in their column. He indicated that because of apparent basic differences in information which was available to the Committee, \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Scrivner:

What do you know about the Soviet air strength? What are the capabilities of the Soviet's Bison? What is inside the Bison? What has been the production of the Bison and what is the outlook in construction of this aircraft? (In a general discussion, both the Bison and the Bear were discussed and figures were furnished on the CIA estimate of the estimated 1959 Soviet strength of both the Bear and the Bison.) How do you arrive at these figures? What is the estimated rate of production of both of these planes? How many actual sightings have you had on the Bison? On the Bear? (The method of estimating air strength was discussed in addition to indicating the basis for the current estimate of Soviet strength of the Bison.)

What do you know about the Soviet Ballistic Missile Program? (A considerable discussion revolved around the definition of a ballistic missile. Mr. Scrivner observed that the CIA definition was in variance with that furnished the Committee

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by Secretary Quarles.) How many firings by the Soviets of a ballistic missile of a 700 to 850 nautical-mile range have you established? What are the characteristics of these missiles? How high do they go in their flight pattern? How are they guided? What is your evaluation of the effectiveness of their control mechanisms? How does the Soviet program in this area compare with that of the U. S. program? (This led into an extended discussion of CIA's responsibility in this field with the position being taken that CIA could not evaluate the Soviet efforts and progress in relationship to that of the U. S., but that our responsibility was to determine the progress of the Soviet program and that other agencies were then responsible for comparing and evaluating their efforts with that of the U. S.) What has been the Soviet progress in the long-range guided missile field?

What does the recent change in the Soviet attitude mean? Are there any internal reasons for this change? How about their internal economy? Has their internal economic situation forced the change on the government? What is the probable long-range effect on the U. S. of this change of the Soviet attitude?

Where and how does OSI (Office of Security Information) and CIA tie in?

After the close of the meeting Mr. Dulles had a private conference with Mr. Scrivner.



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Chief, Budget Division

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